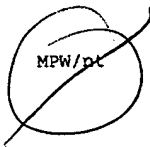


Abstract of the Disclosure:

The invention relates to an apparatus and a method for ascertaining and correcting the optimum sampling time for an oversampled input bit stream. This involves feeding the data  
5 bit blanked with the current sampling phase into the comparative sequence and using the data bit to ascertain a new, corrected sampling phase. This decision-based approach enables the sampling phase to be continuously corrected.

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MPW/dt